



Greenlink is excited to be a part of the soon to launch Greenville B-cycle. Greenville B-cycle is part of a growing network of bikeshare programs across the country which allow program members to check bikes out for short trips between stations where the bikes are docked and stored. Operated by Upstate Forever and funded in part by a JARC grant from Greenlink, Greenville B-Cycle is still on track for a late March launch. And with 30 plus members already it promises to be a successful launch.

As part of the requirements for the JARC grant, which is funding a significant portion of the capital and first year operating expenses, Greenville B-cycle is aiming to provide those in the low income demographic who may lack personal transportation with a low cost, easily accessible and flexible public transportation option which will interface well with and expand upon the utility of the existing Greenlink bus transit system. With the bikeshare program slated to be in operation from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Greenville B-Cycle will expand the hours of available public transit service in the downtown Greenville area as well as supply a critical “last mile” service improving access to and from the bus system. While initially this service will only reach the core of downtown Greenville, including stations at City Hall, the Greenlink Transit Center, North Main Street in front of the Windstream building, Flour Field, Sterling Community Center and County Square, Upstate Forever intends to expand the program providing the intended demographic with increased access around Greenville.

In addition to servicing the low-income community, Greenville B-cycle will also provide improved transportation options for other members of the Greenville community as well. For example, those who work downtown and want to grab a bite for lunch at a restaurant which is just a bit too far to walk but too close to necessitate driving will find the bikeshare program a welcome resource. Also those who want to take the bus into downtown to work but then face an extended walk from the Transit Center to their place of employment could use the bikeshare to make that last connection less formidable and using public transit to commute to work a more realistic option. In a city already recognized nationally as being “bike-friendly”, Greenville B-cycle should find a welcome home in Greenville and provide a much needed addition to improve the utility of our award winning public transit system.

